

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 05626 280841Z

15

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 IO-03 NSC-07 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 L-02 SP-02

PRS-01 CU-03 DRC-01 /072 W

----- 080194

R 280535Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5586

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5626

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS KS

SUBJECT: CURRENT STATUS OF BISHOP CHI

1. CHARGE AT PAPEL NUNCIATURE TOLD POL COUNS AUG 27 THAT SO FAR NO ONE HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO VISIT BISHOP CHI IN PRISON, INCLUDING HIS DOCTOR. CHARGE SAID HE HAS MADE TWO APPROACHES TO MOFA REQUESTING ACCESS TO THE BISHOP, BUT WITH NO SUCCESS TO DATE.

2. ACCORDING TO PAPAL CHARGE HIS LATEST APPROACH WAS EARLY THIS WEEK AND HE WAS TOLD BY MOFA EUROPEAN BUREAU DIRECTOR THAT HIS REQUEST TO SEE BISHOP CHI WOULD HAVE TO BE REFERRED TO THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.

3. PAPAL CHARGE SAID THAT IF HIS LATEST REQUEST IS REFUSED OR ACTION LONG DELAYED, HE WILL TAKE MATTER UP WITH MOFA VICE MINISTER, UNDER INSTRUCTION FROM ROME. CHARGE SAID THAT HIS APPROCHES TO ROKG REGARDING ACCESS TO BISHOP CHI ARE BASED ON "HUMAN GROUNDS." CHARGE SAID VATICAN'S CONCERN AND THAT OF CARDINAL KIM IS OVER THE BISHOP'S HEALTH. BISHOP
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CHI IS A DIABETIC AND TO THEIR BEST INFORMATION HE

IS NOT RECEIVING TREATMENT.

4. PAPAL CHARGE SAID THAT IN HIS APPROACHES HE HAS NOT DIRECTLY CHALLENGED VALIDITY OF COURT MARTIAL CHARGES AGAINST BISHOP CHI. ON THAT SCORE, HE SAID THE FACTS OF BISHOP CHI'S CASE ARE IN FACT SOMEWHAT OBSCURE. ACCORDING TO CHARGE, BISHOP CHI "CONFESSED" UNDER INTENSIVE KCIA INTERROGATION THAT HE PASSED MONEY TO STUDENTS AFTER THE EMERGENCY MEASURES CAME INTO EFFECT. HOWEVER, THE BISHOP LATER REPUDIATED THAT ADMISSION STATING MONEY WAS PASSED BEFORE EMERGENCY MEASURES.
ERICSON

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NNN

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